Julie L. Jones
Executive Director



Rick Scott

Pam Bondi Attorney General

Jeff Atwater Chief Financial Officer

(850) 617-3102

Adam Putnam Commissioner of Agriculture

CONTACT: ANN HOWARD

2900 Apalachee Parkway Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0500 www.flhsmv.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MARCH 14, 2011

LOCAL DRIVER LICENSE OFFICE TO CLOSE THIS MONTH

~ Tax Collector continues to issue driver licenses at four locations in Manatee County ~

BRADENTON - The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles announces upcoming changes to your local driver license office. The state-operated driver license office, located at 3611 First Street East, Suite 1010, Bradenton, FL 34208, will close its doors on March 25 at 5 p.m. The Florida Licensing On Wheels mobile office will visit the Manatee County Sheriff's Office at 600 Highway 301 Boulevard West, Bradenton, FL 34205, on March 28 – April 1 to provide services to motorists.

Manatee County Tax Collector Ken Burton Jr. will begin to provide full driver license services on April 4 at the DeSoto Office. The Tax Collector already provides limited driver license services at all four locations:

- * Palma Sola 7411 Manatee Avenue W., #200, Bradenton, FL 34209
- * Lakewood Ranch 6007 111th Street E., Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202
- * North River 4333 US 301 N., Ellenton, FL 34222
- DeSoto 819 301 Boulevard W., Bradenton, FL 34205
 - * Limited driver license services available

"The Department has partnered with Manatee County Tax Collector Ken Burton Jr. to handle limited driver license services since 1998 and motor vehicle services for many years," said Division of Motorist Services Director Sandra Lambert. "His efforts to issue driver licenses and identification cards and to expand those services will ensure motorists in the area continue to receive those services in convenient locations."

"Additional full-service duties (learner permits, driving tests, written exams, suspensions/cancellations/ revocation and non-U.S. citizens, excluding medical reviews, and hazmat applications) will be handled in our Specialized Driver License Department at our DeSoto location, which is currently undergoing renovation to accommodate such services," Burton said. "Those with regular driver license renewals and address changes may visit any of our locations."

"For 'no wait 24/7,' many transactions can be conducted at www.taxcollector.com, our website, which also lists live lobby wait times," Burton added. "When an office visit is necessary, we encourage our customers to make appointments for title work and driver license transactions by calling (941) 741-4800. For others, just text 'WAIT' to 41411 to find out live lobby wait times to help plan your visit."

Motorists can prepare for their next trip to obtain a new or renewed driver license or ID card by visiting www.GatherGoGet.com. Florida requires additional documents, so visit the website to ensure you have everything you need before you make the trip. The Department has a Gather. Go. Get. Facebook page, where customers can submit questions or comments.

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles provides highway safety and security through excellence in service, education and enforcement. The Department is leading the way to a safer Florida through the efficient and professional execution of its core mission: the issuance of driver licenses, vehicle tags and titles and operation of the Florida Highway Patrol. To learn more about DHSMV, visit www.flhsmv.gov or follow us on Twitter at @FDHSMV.

###